

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Bille**

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(54) **SYSTEM FOR CHARACTERIZING A CORNEA AND OBTAINING AN OPHTHALMIC LENS**

(75) Inventor: **Josef F. Bille**, Heidelberg (DE)

(73) Assignee: **Perfect IP, LLC**, Dallas, TX (US)

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
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See application file for complete search history.

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*Primary Examiner* — Mathieu D. Vargot

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — David W. Carstens; Jeffrey G. Degenfelder; Carstens & Cahoon, LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system for determining the shape of a cornea of an eye illuminates at least one of the interior surface, the posterior surface, and the interior region of the eye with infrared light of a wavelength that can generate fluorescent light from the portion of the cornea illuminated. The generated fluorescent light is then detected. A step of illuminating can comprise focusing the infrared light in a plurality of different planes substantially perpendicular to the optical axis of the eye. From the detected light it is possible to create a map of at least a portion of the interior surface, at least a portion of the posterior surface, and/or portion of the interior region of the cornea. Clarity of vision can be determined by generating autofluorescence from proteins in the pigment epithelial cells of the retina.

**9 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets**

